

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) A system for updating an Instant Messaging (IM)
2 application regarding a user of the IM application, wherein the updating is based on multimedia
3 information, the system comprising:

4 an information capture module for capturing the multimedia information in the
5 vicinity of a machine on which the user is using the IM application;

6 an information extraction and analysis module communicatively coupled with the
7 information capture module, for extracting relevant information from the captured multimedia
8 information; and

9 an information interpretation module communicatively coupled with the
10 information extraction and analysis module, for interpreting the extracted and analyzed
11 information for the IM application, wherein the interpreted information ~~can be~~ is used for
12 updating the IM application to set forth the status of the user beyond the presence and identity of
13 the user.

1 2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the multimedia information
2 comprises at least one of audio information, still image information, and video information.

1 3. (original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 an Application Program Interface module for the IM application,
3 communicatively coupled to the information interpretation module, for receiving the interpreted
4 information and updating the IM application regarding the user.

1 4. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein the Application Program Interface
2 module is configured to update the user's status on the IM application.

1 5. (original) The system of claim 4, wherein the user's status comprises at least
2 one of available, busy, on the phone, and away from the desk.

1 6. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein the Application Program Interface
2 module is configured to update the user's identity on the IM application.

1 7. (original) The system of claim 6, wherein updating the user's identity on the
2 IM application comprises logging out a previous user, and logging in the user on the IM
3 application.

1 8. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the information extraction and
2 analysis module employs face tracking techniques.

1 9. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the information extraction and
2 analysis module employs motion detection techniques.

1 10. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the information extraction and
2 analysis module employs face recognition techniques.

1 11. (currently amended) A method for updating an IM application regarding a
2 user based on captured multimedia information, the method comprising:
3 receiving the captured multimedia information;
4 extracting and analyzing relevant information from the captured multimedia
5 information;
6 interpreting the analyzed information for the IM application;
7 providing the interpreted information to the IM application; and
8 updating the IM application based on the provided information to set forth the
9 status of the user beyond the presence and identity of the user.

1 12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the updating step comprises:
2 updating the status of a user of the IM application.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the extracting and analyzing step
2 comprises tracking a face.

1 14. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the extracting and analyzing step
2 comprises detecting motion.

1 15. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the updating step comprises:
2 updating the identity of the user of the IM application.

1 16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the extracting and analyzing step
2 comprises recognizing a face.

1 17. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the status of said user comprises
2 whether said user is on the phone.

1 18. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein said updating is performed only after
2 a user trigger.

1 19. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein said multimedia data includes audio
2 data.

1 20. (new) The method of claim 1 where said status of said user is indicated as
2 busy if said user is detected to be using a program other than IM or email.